

Subject: SB 819

Good afternoon,

I have been blessed with two wonderful children involved in Portland Village School, one of the amazing public charter schools here in Portland, Oregon. We are so very thankful for the opportunity our children has received to learn in a loving, enriched and open environment. We are all human and want our children, grandchildren and extended families to thrive. We want them to have a house, car, job and children of their own someday. The issue I would love for you to take into consideration is this, we don't all learn in the same way. Think back in the days of your schooling. How was the learning curriculum for you, your brothers and sisters. Was it right for all of your family? Some of us love reading to retain our information, some of us need to learn by a hands on approach, and some of us need to visually see or have the information read to us. All children should have the opportunity to learn in a classroom setting that is comfortable for them and Portland Village School provides this opportunity for my children. (This opportunity is free to any family who may choose this route of education for their loved ones.)

If you could only see the children waiting at the doors to open in the morning, the big smiles, the urgency for them to get to the classrooms to start their day you would know this is the correct environment for these children.

I am writing to you today to show my support for bill SB 819. This bill could increase our current state funding from 80% to 95%.

We ARE the middle class family, with two hard working parents, who live paycheck to paycheck and still juggle a mortgage in the North Portland area. We pay our state/government taxes and get no government assistance nor would we want that. We would like to see our children's school funding be as substantial as any free public school.

Please take this in to consideration.

ALL children deserve to have their education funded at the same rate. Equity among all students!!

Thank you for all you do!

Summer T. Miller